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Maintenance of international security — prevention of the violent disintegration of States

Letter dated 3 December 1998 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the Declaration by the Federal Assembly of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia of 3 December 1998 (see annex).

I should be very grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 64.

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Jovanovic**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

Declaration issued on 3 December 1998 by the Federal Assembly of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

The Federal Assembly of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia notes with indignation:

That recently there has been a series of flagrant attacks by the representatives of the United States administration against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, its vital State and national interests and constitutional institutions.

That new American pressures ensued after it became clear that Serbia and Yugoslavia do not accept the thesis about the so-called "dislocation of Serbia from Kosovo and Metohija", i.e., that it will defend at any cost the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and, in Kosmet, the solution on the basis of equality of all citizens, national and ethnic communities.

In that connection, the Federal Assembly on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

Declares

1. All present, as well as former United States pressures, in fact represent support to separatism and terrorism in Kosovo and Metohija and cause destabilization in the region.

2. The Federal Assembly resolutely rejects and condemns all instruments of pressure, threats and flagrant interference of the United States of America in the internal affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. In order to achieve their destructive goals in the Balkans, the United States of America, its official representatives and agencies, render direct support and assistance to separatism and terrorism and finance those opposing the independence, stability and progress of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. In that way the United States of America, as a super-Power, at the same time places itself in the service of terrorists and separatists, of those forces whose declared goal is the recharting of international borders, the creation of the so-called "Greater Albania" to the detriment of territories of sovereign States in the region. This constitutes a violation of basic principles of the Charter of the United Nations and Security Council resolutions, which condemned terrorism and separatism and threats to lasting peace and stability in the region.

3. It calls on the United States representatives to stop deceiving the American and world general public that they, through their policy of threats and blackmail against Yugoslavia, allegedly work for human rights, protection of national minorities and democracy.

4. It energetically condemns contacts and cooperation of the high representatives of the United States of America with the Albanian terrorists, murderers, kidnappers and confirmed bandits of the Albanian narco-mafia and organized international crime in general. In this way, American representatives render overt support to separatism and terrorism in Kosovo and Metohija, in spite of their proven connection with terrorist organizations in Asia, the Gulf and in eastern and northern Africa, which is very well known to the competent American authorities.

5. The fact that high American representatives state that they cannot dislocate Kosovo and Metohija from Serbia, that they cannot detach and annex it to some "Greater Albania" as long as Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic is in power, is in fact a recognition of the policy of Yugoslavia and its President to defend the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the country. The Federal Assembly renders full support to the President of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Slobodan Milosevic, to persist in the defence of vital

national and State interests, in a peaceful and just solution to the problems in Kosovo and Metohija in the interest of all national communities living in Kosmet as well as in the interest of all the citizens of our country.

6. The will citizens expressed at the elections is a sovereign will, and this principle, on which modern democracies, including the United States of America, are based, equally applies to Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Constitutional organs of Serbia and Yugoslavia cannot be dismissed and established to please any foreign factor, nor can the will of the people be questioned. It is the duty of democratically elected organs and institutions to efficiently protect, by all available means, the sovereignty, independence and integrity of the country, to defend its dignity, and at this time above all to resolutely put an end to every form of separatism and terrorism. Kosovo and Metohija has always been, still is and will remain an integral part of the Republic of Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. We expect that the American public and the United States of America will realize and accept this truth, and not provoke crises or orchestrate pressures to achieve goals which they hide from their own as well as the international public.

7. If the United States of America truly wants a democratic Serbia and Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, then it will assist it in the best way by lifting economic sanctions and pressures against Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as well as by a resolute and principled position on Albanian separatism and terrorism in Kosovo and Metohija, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, international law and principles of modern democracy. The outer wall of sanctions, and direct or indirect support to the Albanian separatists, do not encourage democratic processes, but seriously obstruct them.

8. The Federal Assembly points out that peace, stability and relations can be built exclusively on the principles of equality, independence, non-interference in internal affairs and strict respect of sovereignty and territorial integrity. Any other approach would result in inconceivable threats not only to the region but also to international relations in general.